

Message Text

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PAGE 01 MADRID 03303 141614Z

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C O N F I D E N T I A L MADRID 3303

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: MARR, SP

SUBJ: BASE NEGOTIATIONS

1. IN CALL MORNING MAY 14 ON LT. GENERAL CARLOS FERNANDEZ VALLESPIN, CHIEF OF THE SPANISH HIGH GENERAL STAFF, WHO WAS ACCOMPANIED BY MAJ. GEN. GUTIERREZ MELLADO, I BROUGHT UP THE QUESTION OF WHAT THE SPANISH ATTITUDE WOULD BE IF NATO EUROPEAN ALLIES WOULD NOT ACCEPT OUR VIEW THAT SOME SORT OF LINKAGE SHOULD BE ESTABLISHED WITH SPAIN. GENERAL VALLESPIN RESPONDED THAT HE PERSONALLY DID NOT EXPECT ANY CONCRETE RESULTS FROM THE NATO "SUMMIT". HE CONTINUED THAT, IN HIS VIEW, IT WOULD BE NECESSARY FOR THE US AND SPAIN TO PROCEED WITH THE NEGOTIATION DISCUSSIONS TO CLOSE THE DISPARITY BETWEEN THE POSITION WHICH SPAIN HAD PRESENTED IN THE LAST ROUND AND THE US POSITION. HE CHARACTERIZED THE SPANISH POSITION PRESENTED ON THE LAST DAY F THE FIFTH ROUND AS BEING RATHER HARSH, BUT SAID IT SHOULD BE CONSIDERED ONLY AS A BASIS FOR NEGOTIATIONS. HE WAS CERTAIN THAT THE US AND SPAIN COULD ARRIVE AT A BILATERAL AGREEMENT, BUT THAT THIS AGREEMENT WOULD BE EXCLUSIVELY BILATERAL. IF NATO DID NOT WISH TO HAVE ANY THING TO DO WITH SPAIN, THEN SPAIN CERTAINLY WOULD NOT PROVIDE ANY FACILITIES EITHER DIRECTLY OR THROUGH
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PAGE 02 MADRID 03303 141614Z

A BILATERAL AGREEMENT WITH THE US WHICH WOULD SUPPORT

NATO. I POINTED OUT THAT IT WOULD BE VERY DIFFICULT TO DIFFERENTIATE BETWEEN THE US MILITARY ACTIVITIES WHICH WERE STRICTLY BILATERAL AND THOSE WHICH HAD SOME NATO CONNECTION, TO WHICH HE AGREED; BUT HE REAFFIRMED THE POSITION THAT THERE WOULD HAVE TO BE SUCH A DIFFERENTIATION. HE STRESSED THAT THE GOS HAD TO TAKE INTO ACCOUNT PUBLIC OPINION AND THAT A NEW AGREEMENT WOULD ONLY BE VIABLE TO THE EXTENT IT DEMONSTRATED ADEQUATE COMPENSATION FOR THE FACILITIES GRANTED. THE PROBLEM WAS TO DEFINE THE COMPENSATION WITHIN THE FRAMEWORK OF WHAT EACH SIDE WAS PREPARED AND ABLE TO GIVE.
STABLER

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